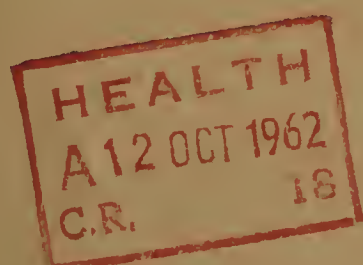




1961

**RURAL DISTRICT
OF
MALMESBURY**



RURAL DISTRICT

OF

MALMESBURY

T H E

A N N U A L

R E P O R T

of the

M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H

and

C H I E F P U B L I C H E A L T H I N S P E C T O R

for the

YEAR ENDING

31st. DECEMBER

1961

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY

(a) MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

C.L. Broomhead, T.D., M.D., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Official address:- 5, High Street, Chippenham.
Telephone: Chippenham 2821
Extn. 49.

Also Medical Officer of Health for the Boroughs of Calne, Chippenham and Malmesbury and the Rural District of Calne & Chippenham; Assistant County Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer, County of Wilts.

(b) CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR, AND SURVEYOR

R.S. Pierce, Cert. S.I.B., Meat & Other Food Inspector's
Cert.

(c) DEPUTY SURVEYOR

D.G. Davies, Cert S.I.B., Meat & Other Food Inspector's
Cert.

(d) ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

R.T. Baynham, Cert. S.I.B., Meat & Other Food Inspector's
Cert. Diploma of the Royal Society of Health
for Smoke Inspectors.

(e) SECRETARY TO THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

S.G.V. Williamson, Cert. R.I.P.H.H.

(f) TECHNICAL ASSISTANT.

C.C. Matthews.

The Public Health Committee of the Council deals with all matters relating to public health.

The Chairman & members,
Malmesbury Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman & Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my annual report for the year 1961 in accordance with Regulation 15(5) of the Public Health Officers Regulations, 1959.

Copies of the report are required by the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries and Food, the Ministry of Housing & Local Government and H.M. Inspector of Factories; a copy is also sent to the County Medical Officer of Health.

The report of the Chief Public Health Inspector, Mr. Pierce, is incorporated and provides much detailed information on environmental public health.

I am grateful to Mr. Pierce and the staff of the Council for their co-operation and assistance during the year under review.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

C.L. Broomhead,

Medical Officer of Health.

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It is gratifying to note that, apart from one death due to Pulmonary Tuberculosis, infectious diseases, as usual, made no contribution to the death rate. This fortunate state of affairs should not be viewed with complacency as an increasing population is particularly vulnerable to imported virulent infectious disease from countries within the Commonwealth who do not possess the effective health service we enjoy here.

The outbreaks of Smallpox imported from Pakistan to the Midlands and Wales towards the end of the year, illustrate this point and underline the need for careful control and medical examination, particularly at Airfields of all immigrants from infected areas. The real solution in the eradication of Smallpox however, is to control it in the same fashion in the Commonwealth as it is controlled in this country.

The control of Smallpox requires, inter alia, vaccination and segregation of close contacts of the actual case and vaccination of those at special risk. It is not accepted by the Ministry of Health as good policy to introduce mass vaccination of the public for a variety of reasons, not the least being the need to conserve vaccine, at the onset of an outbreak, for the actual contacts quoted above.

There are also certain complications of vaccination to be considered, particularly when given to an adolescent or adult who has not been previously vaccinated during infancy.

Complications range from a severe reaction which may necessitate time off from work and a stay in bed, to serious generalised vaccinia and encephalitis or inflammation of the brain and subsequent death.

There was only one case of non-paralytic Poliomyelitis notified during the year under review. The crippling deformities of this dangerous infection and the permanent damage to the nervous system it causes should, as the immune state of the population rises, become things of the past.

Provided a case of tuberculosis is treated in the early stage of the disease, the outlook is nowadays quite hopeful. It is important also that patients suffering from this infection in its early stage should seek treatment as soon as possible, in order that infectivity can be rapidly reduced thereby limiting spread of the disease.

Nevertheless there is a proportion of the public suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis who do not seek advice or treatment, and it is they who constitute the unknown pool of infection. To protect school children, they are offered a tuberculin test and subsequent B.C.G. vaccination if necessary before they leave school and mix more closely with the adult population.

The campaign for the eradication of bovine tuberculosis is now completed, and a further source of anxiety removed. In 1921, in the country as a whole, over eleven hundred children under five years of age died of abdominal tuberculosis, contracted by drinking cows milk in the raw state.

Cancer and Coronary Disease remain the two principle causes of death and it is gratifying that at last the Government has accepted the fact that there is a connection between cigarette smoking and lung cancer and supported a campaign to prevent the habit, particularly in the young.



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One of the principal activities of Local Health Authorities to prevent disease are their arrangements for vaccination and immunisation against Smallpox and Diphtheria. To these have been added Whooping Cough, Tetanus and Polio-myelitis. It should be appreciated however, that the success of these procedures may give a false sense of security and it is important that parents should avail themselves fully of the facilities provided and see to it that their children are fully protected at all times.

Regular routine samples of the raw water and the treated water in supply are taken for bacteriological examination and close liaison is kept with the Water Manager who is immediately informed of the results of these investigations.

In conclusion, to maintain the present excellent state of the public health, the continued provision and distribution of clean food, a pure and wholesome water supply, adequate housing, clean air and efficient sewage disposal are still essentials.

On the following pages are the statistics on birth and death rates, the causes of death and the prevalence of infectious disease notified. The report of the Senior Public Health Inspector, Mr. Pierce, includes comment on the inspections carried out and samples taken for examination at the Public Health Laboratory during the year; an invaluable contribution to the maintenance and improvement of the public health.

C.L. Broomhead.

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	58,090
Population	10,110
No. of inhabited houses at end of 1961 (according to the Rate Book)	3,099
Rateable Value at 31.12.61.	£111,794
Estimated sum represented by the Penny Rate.	£444

VITAL STATISTICS.

LIVE BIRTHS

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	116	112	228
Illegitimate	4	4	8
Total	<u>120</u>	<u>116</u>	<u>236</u>
Crude Birth Rate for the Rural District	23.2 per 1000 of the population		
Adjusted Birth Rate for the Rural District	23.8 per 1000 of the population		
Comparative Rate for England & Wales	17.4 per 1000 of the population.		

Members of the Armed Forces stationed in the area are included in the population figure shown under the heading "General Statistics". To make an approximate allowance for the way in which the sex and age distribution of the local population differs from England & Wales as a whole, the crude birth and death rates for the Rural District are to be multiplied by a "comparability factor" given by the Registrar General. The above statistics have been so corrected.

STILL BIRTHS

Three still births were recorded during 1961. The rate per 1000 total live and still births is 23.6. The comparative rate for England & Wales for 1961 is given by the Registrar General as 18.7.

INFANT MORTALITY.

Deaths of infants under one year of age.

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	1	1	2
Illegitimate	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>

The above children died during their first week of life.

Rate per 1000 live births	8.3
Comparative rate for England & Wales	21.4

DEATHS

6

Deaths recorded in the Rural District during 1961
were as follows:-

Males	Females	Total
63	53	116

Crude Death Rate for the Rural District	11.4
per 1000 of the population.	
Adjusted Death Rate for the Rural District	11.6
per 1000 of the population.	
Comparative Rate for England & Wales	12.0

ANALYSIS OF CAUSES OF DEATH.

	Males	Females	Total
Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	-	1
Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-
Syphilitic disease	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-
Meningococcal infections	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1	1	2
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	10	-	10
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	2	2
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	5	4	9
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-	-
Diabetes	-	-	-
Vascular lesions of nervous system	9	11	20
Coronary disease, angina	17	10	27
Hypertension with heart dis.	9	2	12
Other heart disease	9	7	16
Other circulatory disease	3	2	5
Influenza	1	2	3
Pneumonia	2	-	2
Bronchitis	1	1	2
Other disease of respiratory system	-	1	1
Ulcer of stomach & duodenum	1	-	1
Gastritis, enteritis & diarrhoea	-	-	-
Nephritis & nephrosis	1	-	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	-	-	-
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-
Congenital malformations	1	-	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	1	5	6
Motor vehicle accidents	-	3	3
All other accidents	-	-	-
Suicide	-	-	-
Homicide & Operations of war	-	1	1
TOTAL:-	63	53	116

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

7

The following table shows the cases of infectious disease notified during 1961, with comparative figures for each year since 1957.

	<u>1957</u>		<u>1958</u>		<u>1959</u>		<u>1960</u>		<u>1961</u>	
	a	b	a	b	a	b	a	b	a	b
<u>DISEASE.</u>										
Scarlet Fever	5	5	-	-	4	4	2	2	2	2
Whooping Cough	11	11	13	13	-	-	12	12	2	2
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	266	266	68	68	66	66	1	1	117	117
Ac. Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ac. Poliomyelitis (Non-Paralytic)	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Dysentery	1	1	15	13	1	1	28	9	9	6
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Para.Typhoid Fever	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Typhoid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	8	8	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning.	-	-	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL:-	291	291	104	100	71	71	43	24	131	127

"a" = Numbers originally notified.
"b" = Final numbers after correction.

The case of Non-Paralytic Poliomyelitis shown in the above table was in respect of a five year old girl. The child was not attending school. Subsequent to admission of the patient to hospital and virological investigation, it was established that this was not a case of non-paralytic poliomyelitis.

New cases of Tuberculosis notified and confirmed by the Chest Physician during 1961 are as follows, together with comparative totals for previous years since 1949.

NEW CASES NOTIFIED DURING

YEAR	PULMONARY	NON-PULMONARY	TOTAL
1949	3	-	3
1950	3	4	7
1951	6	-	6
1952	3	2	5
1953	8	-	8
1954	7	4	11
1955	5	-	5
1956	4	-	4
1957	2	1	3
1958	7	1	8
1959	4	2	6
1960	3	2	5
1961	5	1	6

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1961
ACCORDING TO AGE AND SEX.

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	RESP.		NON-RESP.		RESP.		NON-RESP.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0								
1								
5								
15	2	1	1					
25		1			1			
35	1							
45								
55								
65 upwards.								
Totals:-	3	2	1	-	1	-	-	-

In addition to the new cases notified each year, a certain proportion of tuberculous persons either move into the district, or move out. According to the Register of Tuberculous Persons, the following notified and confirmed cases of tuberculosis were living in the Rural District at the end of 1961.

	Males	Females	Total
Pulmonary	26	24	50
Non-Pulmonary	10	3	13
Totals:-	36	27	63

Poliomyelitis Immunisation (Completed injections during 1961)

<u>Persons born</u>	<u>2nd.</u>	<u>3rd.</u>	<u>4th.</u>
1943-1961	194	216	556
1933-1942	36	52	-
Before 1933, but who had not reached 40 years of age	112	172	-
Others	5	6	-
Total:-	<u>347</u>	<u>446</u>	<u>556</u>

WATER SUPPLIES

The following information has been supplied by Mr. C.C. Campbell, the Council's Water Manager.

(a) Sources Corston - situate in village of Corston near Mill Inn. 10" diameter borehole to depth of 100'. 8" diameter submersible pump 28 h.p. of 12,500 gallons capacity per hour, automatically controlled. Supply is pumped to Rodbourne Tower, approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ mile from Pump House, T.W.L. 390' and 150,000 gallons capacity.

Charlton - situate in Charlton Park, covered spring basin with pumping station adjacent. Duplicate 23 H.P. Centrefugal electric pumping units each of 10,000 gallons per hour capacity automatically controlled from water tower. Supply is pumped, T.WL 390' and 100,000 gallons capacity.

(b) Yield - (Present pumping units)

	<u>Average daily demand -galls.</u>	<u>Maximum pumping</u>
Corston	220,000	264,000
Charlton	96,000	198,000

(c) Chlorination - Weekly examination by Public Health Department.

(d) Bulk Supplies from adjoining authorities.

Cricklade & Wootton Bassett R.D.C. - bulk supplies afforded to the Parishes of Brinkworth and Minety and part of Charlton approximately 35,000,000 galls. per annum.

Malmesbury Borough Council. - bulk supplies to Bristol Road and Foxley Road areas in the parish of St. Paul Malmesbury Without, approximately 4,900,000 gallons per annum.

Bulk Supply afforded to Calne & Chippenham R.D.C.

Malmesbury R.D.C. afford a bulk supply to the village of Seagry of approximately 22,000,000 galls per annum.

Supply in detail. - The Bristol Waterworks Co. (West Gloucestershire Division) supply the following parishes in the Rural District in detail:-

Supply in detail (continued)

Brokenborough, Foxley & Norton, Luckington, Sherston and Sopworth.

(e) Private Supplies

Chelworth - Windmill supply from well situate near Pinnigar Bottom, Crudwell supplying 5 farms and 17 houses and cottages. Supply is chlorinated.

Chedglow - source, borehole situated at Tuners Lane, Crudwell. Water raised to tower at Chedglow Farm, supplying 1 farm and 14 houses and cottages - not chlorinated.

Charlton - Estate supply from mains fed from Charlton Spring basin, supplying two farms, 19 houses and cottages and estate buildings. Not chlorinated.

Pinkney - Estate supply from well near River Avon, Pjnkey supplying Pinkney Park House, cottages and buildings. Not chlorinated.

Eastcourt - Well supply pumped to storage tank supplying Eastcourt House, 1 farm and 10 houses and cottages. Not chlorinated.

(f) Adequacy of Sources

Corston source - No shortage was experienced at this source and normal pumping level was maintained in borehole throughout the year.

Charlton Source No shortage was experienced at this source and normal pumping was maintained in spring chamber throughout the year.

(g) New Works constructed during year

A 3" diameter main extension was carried out to the Oaksey Moor area, a length of yds. to afford supplies to four farms and houses.

The 3" diameter main at Foxley Road was extended along Common Road for yds to afford supplies to new housing development.

(h) Distribution.

The parishes of Brinkworth, Minety and part of Charlton are supplied in bulk from the Cricklade and Wootton Bassett R.D.C. from mains of 4", 3" and 2" diameter.

The parishes of Brokenborough, Foxley and Norton, Luckington, Sherston Sopworth are within the statutory area of the Bristol Waterworks Co. who supply in detail.

The Foxley Road and Portmeadow areas and Bristol Road are supplied in bulk from Malmesbury Borough by 3" diameter mains.

The remainder of the parishes in the district are supplied from the Corston and Charlton sources through the service towers at Rodbourne and Whychurch by 8", 7", 6", 4" and 3" diameter mains.

General Statistics

Population	10,124.	Private houses owned	
		by service departments	170
Total hses in Dist.	3,279	Hses supplied by R.D.C.	2,256
Hses supplied by			
other authorities	800	Private supplies	141
Total hses supplied	3,197 (98%)		
Estimated percentage	-	Rural Dist. Council.	70.05%
of population supplied		Other Authorities	24.85%
		Private Supplies	4.03%

WATER SUPPLIES (Continued)

New connections made during year - Domestic 37
 Non Domestic 27

No Plumbo Solvency properties present.

	Hses in Parish	Hses directly supplied	Popln suppd.	Private Piped supps.	Popn on Priv. piped
Brinkworth	325	325	1030	-	-
Brokenborough	125	125	420	-	-
Charlton	128	102	338	24	75
Crudwell	225	144	477	79	230
Dauntsey	136	136	428	-	-
Easton Grey	35	35	116	-	-
Great Somerford	172	161	476	4	-
Hankerton	71	48	156	2	-
Hullavington	265	257	820	-	-
Lea & Cleverton	188	177	576	-	-
Little Somerford	88	88	270	-	-
Luckington	158	158	481	-	-
Minety	260	254	800	5	14
Foxley & Norton	47	44	130	-	-
Oaksey	148	135	400	11	38
St. Paul Without	469	455	1400	3	12
Sherston	403	376	1200	13	39
Sopworth.	36	36	120	-	-
	<u>3279</u>	<u>3056</u>	<u>9638</u>	<u>141</u>	<u>408</u>

As a Medical Officer of Health, I have for some time expressed concern as to the future relationship of the medical advisor to a Local Authority when a Water Board takes over the Local Authority's Water Undertakings. A full report was included in my Annual Report for 1960.

At the time of writing this report, no communication has been received from the North West Wilts. Water Board, nor to my knowledge, have the District Councils concerned received any further information.

The following extract from the Annual Report of the Chief Medical Officer to the Ministry of Health for the year 1957 should be noted.

"In accordance with modern policy, water undertakings, both private and public, are being subjected to regional grouping, where necessary, with consequent changes in staffing and management. It may, therefore, be of advantage to remind medical officers of health and public health inspectors that the memorandum on safeguards to be adopted in day-to-day administration of Water Undertakings (Memo 221), issued by the Ministry of Health in 1939, and revised in 1948, has not in any way been affected by these events.

While the memorandum provides a useful and practical code of hygiene for water engineers and managers, it also indicates clearly that there is an overall medical responsibility which does not begin "at the tap", but extends from the actual source, whether above or below ground, to the consumer. All Water Undertakings, therefore, should ensure that they have access to competent medical advice, at all times; and in the case of a local authority undertaking, the appropriate committee should, in the interests of both of the community and of itself, see that the medical officer of health has an unrestricted interest in the health aspects of water production.

Copies of bacteriological and chemical reports on the raw and treated water should regularly be sent to the Health Dept; the health of workmen employed on gathering-grounds, in wells or at boreholes and at pumping stations and treatment plants, should be subjected to constant medical supervision, as indicated in paragraph 5 of Memo 221, if accidental bacterial infections are to be avoided".

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

I am indebted to Dr. C.D.L. Lycett, County Medical Officer of Health for the following information:-

Immunisation and Smallpox Vaccination Statistics, 1961.

Year of Birth		1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1952-1947-56	51
Primary imms. completed during 1961	Diph.	44	62	7	4	3	20	2
	Wh/c.	44	62	7	4	2	6	-
Reinfor.injections administered during 1961.	Diph.	-	1	4	7	10	100	5
	Wh/c.	-	-	4	7	6	22	-
Age Group.		Under 1	1	2-4	5-14	15 or over		
Vaccinations		80	8	8	5	5		
Revaccinations		-	-	-	2	8		

REPORT OF SURVEYOR AND CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1961.

OFFICERS OF THE DEPARTMENT.

R.S. Pierce,	Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector.
D.G. Davis,	Deputy Surveyor.
R.T. Baynham,	Additional Public Health Inspector.
J.R. Atherton,	Technical Assistant.
J.H. Humphreys (Mrs.)	Clerical Assistant.
G.J. Poulton (Miss)	Clerical Assistant.

HOUSING.

Council Houses.

The erection of 4 two-bedroomed bungalows at Church Road, Luckington was completed and work has commenced on the erection of 4 two-bedroomed bungalows at Hankerton.

22 families were accommodated in existing houses through change of tenancy.

No. of applicants for Council houses at present registered	191
--	-----

The Council own:-

24	1	bedroomed bungalows.
47	2	" "
25	2	" houses.
415	3	" "
10	4	" "
<u>521</u>		

Maintenance and repair of Council houses has been carried out almost entirely by direct labour, the repair of electrical installations being the only work regularly carried out by Contractors.

The average cost of repair and maintenance was approximately £12.0.0. per house.

Schemes for the improvement of pre-war Council houses by the installation of hot water systems, water closets, baths, basins etc., have proceeded.

During the year under review the work has been completed in 6 houses at Chippenham Road, Corston, 8 houses at Bristol Road, Luckington and 8 houses at Church Road, Luckington.

Up to the end of 1961, 78 houses have been improved.

10 garages have been completed at St. James, Dauntsey, making a total of 42 now owned by the Council.

No. of inspections of occupied Council houses	637
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Private Enterprise Building.

No. of houses completed during the year	26
No. in course of erection	40

Administration of Building Byelaws.

No. of plans submitted for approval	157
No. of plans passed	157
No. of inspections in connection therewith	752

Town and Country Planning Act, 1947.

The Council continued to exercise the powers delegated by the Wilts. County Council with regard to development control.

No. of applications for permission to develop	204
No. approved without conditions	82
No. approved with conditions	74
No. of applications withdrawn	6
No. of applications refused	41
No. of application not yet determined	1
No. of inspections in connection therewith	311

Caravan Sites & Control of Development Act, 1960.

Licences were issued for the stationing of 61 caravans on 21 sites in the District. The sites generally have been brought up to the required standard with one exception where the Council informed the occupier that proceedings would be instituted unless the conditions of the licence were complied with forthwith.

No. of inspections	84
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Inspection of Dwellings.

No. of inspections of dwellings for defects under Housing or Public Health Acts	362
No. of dwellings found to be unfit for human habitation	11
No. found to be not in all respects fit	77
No. of dwellings repaired by informal action	75
No. of cases of statutory action	NIL
No. of houses demolished	9
No. of houses closed	NIL
No. of overcrowded dwellings known at end of year	NIL
No. of undertakings accepted	11

Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958.House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959.Improvement Grants.

There has been a steady flow of applications for improvement grants during the year the total number approved being 64 against 51 for the previous year.

The improvement of houses is making a valuable contribution to raising the standard of housing in the District.

Discretionary Grants.

No. of applications received during the year	32
No. of applications approved	32
No. of applications withdrawn	NIL
No. of schemes completed	27
Average grant per dwelling	£347

Standard Grants.

15

No. of standard grants received	32
No. of applications approved	32
No. of amenities to be provided -	
Baths	24
Basins	25
Hot water supplies	25
Water closets	27
Foodstores	21

WATER.

During the year the following samples from main supplies were taken for bacteriological examination:-

<u>Source</u>	<u>No. of samples</u>	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory.</u>
Charlton	4	4	-
Chelworth	17	12	5
Corston	4	4	-
Corston/Charlton main	51	51	-
Easton Grey	5	4	1
Minety	12	12	-
Sherston	13	13	-
Westonbirt main	<u>14</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>120</u>	<u>114</u>	<u>6</u>

No. of visits in connection therewith 132

The unsatisfactory samples from the Chelworth source were due to inefficient chlorination, and the owners have been asked to make arrangements for day to day supervision to ensure adequate treatment in future.

Use of the Easton Grey source has been discontinued and the village is now supplied by the Bristol Waterworks Company.

Proposals are being formulated for the provision of main water supplies to the outlying groups of houses at Bullocks Horn in the parish of Hankerton and Chedglow in the parish of Crudwell.

Wherever a main supply is available owners have been asked to provide a piped supply inside the house and most houses in the District now have such a supply.

SEWERS AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The installation of main water supplies throughout practically the whole of the District, and consequent increase in drainage, makes the need for main sewage schemes greater than ever.

The Council's policy has been to encourage house building by private enterprise and the improvement of older property by the installation of water closets and baths, the only possible drainage outfalls in many cases at present being cesspits or septic tanks. In areas with pervious subsoil, effluent disposal by soakage is reasonably efficient but in that part of the District with a clay or water-logged subsoil the tendency is growing for ditches and water-courses to become polluted, with consequent complaints from residents in the vicinity.

The increasing use of detergents is making plant maintenance and effluent disposal even more difficult than in the past.

Until such time as sewage schemes can be provided, if houses are to be improved, the occupants must be prepared to accept a certain amount of inconvenience in drainage disposal.

The Sherston sewage disposal plant has been well maintained during the year and samples of effluent have been reported to be excellent.

The Hullavington scheme was completed in September and most of the houses in the village have been connected to the new sewers and in many cases water-closets have been substituted for pails and new bathrooms provided.

The completion of this scheme has eliminated one of the worst cases of cumulative pollution in the Rural District.

The Deputy Surveyor has been engaged for a considerable part of his time on the supervision of the scheme and the drain connections thereto.

Tenders have been invited for the schemes of Great and Little Somerford and for that part of the parish of St. Paul Without surrounding the Borough of Malmesbury and it is hoped that both of the schemes will be commenced in the near future.

Calne and Chippenham Rural District Council have agreed to make provision in their regional scheme for the treatment of drainage from Startley and the Swalletts Gate - Dauntsey Lock areas.

Further schemes should be prepared with a view to continuity in progress but the speed with which proposals can be implemented will depend upon the amount of time which officers can devote to the work.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

Refuse is collected fortnightly, by direct labour, over the whole of the Rural District, 2 men being employed full time and 1 part time.

More householders are realizing the need to provide proper covered flyproof dustbins but unsuitable containers such as sacks, cardboard boxes and old baths etc. continue to be used in many instances.

The volume of refuse collected continues to increase and is deposited at 3 tips, Hullavington (owned by the Council), Sherston and Oaksey (by agreement with the owners).

No serious difficulty has been experienced at the tips.

The Hullavington tip is nearly full and it has not yet been possible to obtain a new site in this part of the District. The Oaksey tip has been filled and agreement reached for tipping into a disused gravel pit on Laynes Farm, Chelworth. Negotiations are in progress to obtain the use of the disused marl pit at Knockdown Road, Sherston.

A new tip is urgently required in the Southern part of the District if long hauls of refuse are to be avoided.

One of the refuse lorries is now 16 years old and its replacement is becoming urgent.

Mileage covered by lorries	13, 836
No. of inspections in connection with refuse collection and disposal	143

RODENT CONTROL.

Refuse tips have been treated for destruction of rats as required.

Private premises are treated without charge, on request.

No. of properties inspected for infestations	133
No. of properties found to be infested and treated	106
No. of visits in connection therewith	204

38 visits were made and the necessary action taken following reported cases of infectious disease.

NUISANCES.

Regular inspections have been made over the District to detect and deal with nuisances. It has not been necessary to recommend the Council to take statutory action in any case, all nuisances having been dealt with informally.

No. of inspections

141

FOOD INSPECTION.

Meat.

The 3 butchers shops in the District are clean and in good condition. The carcasses of all animals slaughtered were examined.

There are 3 licensed slaughtermen in the District.

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part.

	Cattle exclud- ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	67	1	3	81	28	nil
Number inspected	67	1	3	81	28	nil
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned.	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	3	nil	nil	2	1	nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	4.48	nil	nil	2.47	3.57	nil
<u>Tuberculosis only:</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned.	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
<u>Cysticercosis</u>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration.	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
Generalised and totally condemned	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil

It will be observed that none of the animals slaughtered was found to be affected by Tuberculosis although the number of animals slaughtered and inspected increased by nearly 40%.

Milk.

The Wilts. County Council delegated to the Council certain powers and duties under the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1960.

8 samples of milk taken during the year were found to be satisfactory. A set of bottle rinses was unsatisfactory due to inadequate sterilisation. After advice had been given a further set of rinses was examined and found to be satisfactory.

No. of registered distributors	3
No. of licensed Dealers in Pasteurised milk	3
No. of licensed Dealers in Tuberculin Tested milk	3
No. of licensed Dealers in Sterilised milk	1
No. of inspections of premises	6

Bakehouses.

The 3 bakehouses are clean and generally satisfactory.

Fried Fish Shops.

1 shop is registered for the sale of fried fish and is satisfactory.

Ice-Cream.

No ice-cream is manufactured in the District, and all sold is pre-packed by the Makers.

No. of premises registered for sale of ice-cream	42
No. of inspections	29

Public Houses.

Progress continues to be made in the provision of adequate sanitary conveniences and cleansing facilities in public houses, and most are now satisfactory.

No. of inspections	29
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Food Hygiene Regulations.

The mobile vehicles operating in the District are generally satisfactory. All premises in the District used for the sale of food are generally in good condition and well maintained.

Schedule of Food Premises in the District.

	<u>Number.</u>	<u>Number of Inspections.</u>
Butchers	3	4
Grocers (including General Stores)	38	32
Bakers	3	3
Public Houses	34	29
Greengrocers	1	1
Fish and Chips	1	1
Restaurants and Canteens	5	6
	<u>85</u>	<u>76</u>

THE DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOODS) ORDER, 1957.

All premises were satisfactory.

No. of premises processing at the end of the year	4
No. of visits made	6

STORAGE OF PETROLEUM SPIRIT.

All premises licensed for the storage of petroleum spirit and carbide of calcium are satisfactory.

No. of premises licensed for storage of petroleum spirit	66
No. of premises licensed for storage of calcium	1
No. of inspections	69

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS.

During the year the total number of inspections made by Officers of the Department was 4,765

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 to 1959.

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1937.

PART 1 of the Act.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

	No. on Register.	Inspns.	Number of Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
Factories in which Secs. 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by L.A.'s.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Factories not included in (i) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the L.A.	26	12	Nil	Nil
Other premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the L.A. (excluding out-workers' premises).	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total	26	12	Nil	Nil

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

No action was taken under this heading during the year under review.

3. Part V111 of the Act (Outwork) - Sections 110 and 111.

There is one outworker living in the Rural District.

